

KanCare Advisor

This news bulletin is designed to provide updates on KanCare, the new Medicaid program in the State of Kansas. Information is published by the Kansas Department of Health and Environment and the Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services.

January 23, 2014

Open Enrollment for Members

Open enrollment for KanCare is underway. If you joined KanCare in January 2013, your open enrollment for Plan Year 2014 began in December 2013. Members who gained eligibility after Jan. 1, 2013, will have open enrollment corresponding with their initial enrollment date.

All members will have 60 days to review their open enrollment packet and decide if they want to stay in their plan or change to a different plan. For more information about Open Enrollment, please visit www.kancare.ks.gov. If you choose to keep the same health plan you have now, you do not need to submit an enrollment packet and you will be automatically re-enrolled in the same plan!



I/DD and KanCare



As many of you know, there are a significant number of Kansans with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) who are receiving some services through the I/DD waiver but have also been waiting for another service or other services. Effective immediately, the State of Kansas will no longer be adding any persons to this list, and it is the intent of the Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services to remove all persons on this list over the next several months.

In the near future, those who are currently on this list will receive a letter asking them to confirm their continued need for an additional service(s). If a person does not respond, KDADS will contact the person/guardian and attempt to gather the needed information. If persons respond and indicate they do continue to have additional needs, they will be contacted by their case manager and KanCare care coordinator to schedule an assessment to determine their specific current service needs. If a person responds that they do not have additional current needs, the information will be shared with the KanCare company and Targeted Case Manager to update the support plan to reflect anticipated future need and preferred lifestyle -- if it is not already reflected. Under KanCare, as a person's needs change, they can contact their TCM or MCO Care Coordinator to request an assessment for additional supports and services.

Please contact KDADS at 785-296-4986 or hcbs-ks@kdads.ks.gov with any questions you may have about KanCare, I/DD or other HCBS Programs.

I/DD Provider Weekly Bulletins

For the last several weeks, KDADS has been sending out a weekly update regarding the I/DD system. These bulletins are sent each week through our extensive ListServ. If you are not receiving the bulletin and would like to, please send an email to Laura.Leistra@kdads.ks.gov and request to have your email address added to the ListServ.

[In the News: Salina hospital reaches agreement to continue services for all Medicaid patients](#)

(*Salina Journal*, Jan. 5, 2014) An agreement signed on New Year's Eve has ensured that all Medicaid patients can continue to receive ongoing care and out-patient services at Salina Regional Health Center and affiliated health service providers during 2014.

Hospital representatives had announced in November that as of Jan. 1, certain Medicaid patients no longer would be eligible for non-emergency care because negotiations had stalled with UnitedHealthcare Community Plan of Kansas.

UnitedHealthcare, along with Sunflower and AmeriGroup, are the three managed care providers that began overseeing medical services for Medicaid recipients last year. "We really went through a lot to keep everybody informed, and that's proved to be not necessary," said Tom Bell, executive director of governmental and public relations for the hospital.

"That's a good thing. It's going to make all of our lives easier in the long run." Joel Phelps, senior vice president and chief operating officer at SRHC, said the one-year agreement that will automatically renew is a "win-win."

"Any time we can be part of an agreement that's best for local patients, I think that's a good thing," he said. Timothy Spilker, president of UnitedHealthcare Community Plan of Kansas, said he was pleased to announce that agreement had been reached with the hospital. "We look forward to developing a strong relationship with Salina in 2014 and beyond," Spilker said in an email to the Journal.

- See more at: <http://salina.com/search/hospital-1-2-14> **Advisor Editor's Note:** Salina Regional Health Center reports to KanCare that its system has 129 providers offering services under 14 practices in Salina, Minneapolis and Lindsborg.

MAGI Budgeting and KanCare

This year, 2014, brings changes for Children, Pregnant Women and Low Income Families that apply for KanCare. Part of the Affordable Care Act changes the way KanCare looks at the family composition and the income we use to determine eligibility. The Modified Adjusted Gross Income, or MAGI, methodologies align financial eligibility rules across all insurance affordability programs. MAGI is a methodology for how income is counted and how household composition and family size are determined. MAGI budgeting is based on federal tax rules for determining adjusted gross income; therefore, how a person files taxes may affect their KanCare eligibility at the next review.

Who in KanCare is affected by MAGI budgeting? Most children, pregnant women and parents. People **not** subject to the new budgeting rules include individuals found eligible on the basis of being over the age of 65, blind or disabled individuals with Medicare, Foster Care children, and people in Long Term Care or HCBS living situations.

Some key differences the family may see are the way KanCare looks at self-employment and farm income after depreciation and deductions of capital losses. Child Support income and Tribal income is no longer counted.

KanCare Advisor is published once a month. If you would like to subscribe to this news bulletin, please register at <http://listserv.kdheks.gov>



By the Numbers: Enrollment

Approximately 300,000 individuals received open enrollment packets prior to the December 2013—March 2014 open enrollment period. As of Jan. 14, there were 7,155 people who changed plans effective Jan. 1, 2014, and there were 876 people who changed plans effective Feb. 1.

Enrollment numbers for KanCare companies as of Jan. 3, 2014:
Amerigroup 122,437; Sunflower 139,542; UnitedHealthcare 118,930

2013 Program Enrollment Information:

Medicaid		CHIP	
July	342392	July	55097
August	342309	August	55637
September	342146	September	56386
October	344574	October	56905
November	346331	November	56803
December	350294	December	56194

KDADS names new KanCare Ombudsman, new Director of Managed Care

TOPEKA—Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services (KDADS) Secretary Shawn Sullivan announced on Jan. 17 the appointment of **James Bart** as the agency's new Director of Managed Care and the appointment of **Kerrie Bacon** as the new KanCare Ombudsman during a meeting of the Kansas Legislature's Robert G. (Bob) Bethell Joint Committee on HCBS and KanCare Oversight.

Ms. Bacon is a quality management specialist in KDADS' Community Services and Programs Commission, overseeing the federal Money Follows the Person program. Before joining the state last year, she served

as interim Executive Director of the Kansas Council on Developmental Disabilities from 2011-2012 and as state coordinator, research analyst and liaison at the Kansas Commission on Disability from 2003 through 2011. She has also served as a consultant to the American Association for People with Disabilities in Washington, DC.

She holds a BS in Sociology from Baker University and is a graduate of the University of Kansas' Certified Public Manager program.

To see the full announcement, including statements, go to: http://www.kancare.ks.gov/download/Ombudsman_ManagedCareDirector_Named.pdf

KanCare Advisory Council

Next Meeting

Wednesday March 26, 2014 from 2 - 3:30 p.m.

Curtis State Office Building, Rm 530

1000 SW Jackson Street, Topeka, Kan.

Council members are listed on the web at:

[http://www.kancare.ks.gov/
advisory_council.htm](http://www.kancare.ks.gov/advisory_council.htm)

Member Assistance Line:

1-866-305-5147

TTY: 1-800-766-3777

Health Plans:

Amerigroup: 800-600-4441, TTY: 800-855-2880

Sunflower: 877-644-4623, TTY: 888-282-6428

UnitedHealthcare: 877-542-9238, TTY: #711

Office of KanCare Ombudsman:

1-855-643-8180

Email: KanCare.Ombudsman@kdads.ks.gov

Ombudsman on the web: [http://
www.kancare.ks.gov/ombudsman.htm](http://www.kancare.ks.gov/ombudsman.htm)